

dition of God's ownership of all and the use of the rest in the way which will result in the most good.

QUESTIONS

1. How does it help us to be systematic in giving?
2. What are some helpful methods of laying aside the Lord's portion?
3. How may we know whether we are giving our proper portion or not?
4. How may we raise the standard of our giving?
5. How may we know when we are about to spend money whether that is the best use for it or not?
6. What are some common ways of wasting the Lord's money?
7. What besides money do we owe to the Lord?

OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

JACOB C. CASSEL

Your president requested me to write a short article on practical work, or rather on practical methods of *giving*. In EVANGELIST No. 42, he himself clearly states that every member, or every family at least should have a missionary barrel within sight or easy access. I know of no more practical method to raise missionary money than the barrel or box plan. All that that plan needs is some one to work it in each congregation.

I confess I have been disappointed in the young people's work thus far. When they first organized I had hoped that the natural zeal and ambition so characteristic of young people would lead them to at once centre their efforts upon some definite line of work in the church, and push it with youthful energy and devotion to great success, but that has not transpired thus far, but it is not too late to do that yet, as there is an unoccupied field still before them, and that is the foreign mission work.

In most instances the churches proper attend to the local church affairs, the District Mission Boards attend to the District Mission work, the S. S. C. E., looks after the college and superannuated ministers. This leaves the General and Foreign Mission field unoccupied. True, there is a General Mission Board whose business it is to attend to executive matters, but the Board needs feeders in every congregation so that it can expand and carry on its work. Every Young People's Society should form itself into a Missionary Society and institute clearly defined methods of raising money to support the cause. The barrels as already suggested are practical, if some one attends to securing them, handing them out, taking the names of all that they are given to, and fixing a time when they are to be returned and opened, and relabeled and handed out again. If this method does not commend itself get the consent of the church to have a Missionary service at least once in three months and take the offerings for General Missions. If the young people in every congregation were thus to combine their efforts all upon this one object they would soon become a definite factor in the general work of the church and in extending the work into unevangelized fields. This is of much more importance than the mere name of the society, or the pledge or constitution that may be adopted.

In the thoughts herein expressed I feel that I share the views of the president and

ex-president, therefore urge their most serious consideration.

Another thought. Let all the Young People's Societies lay by enough money this year to send at least one of their most wide awake members to next National Conference, and then have a real delegate, business convention, to decide some questions that have been agitating the societies for several years, and also to devise ways and means to enter upon more definite, concerted work in the future. Let there be real consecration and real business for God by our young people. Amen.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Some Needed Committees in Young Peoples' Work and Their Duties.

I hope that no society attempts to exist without some, if not all, of the following committees. Without them your work as a society will be seriously handicapped. In some places all of them will not be needed. But no society can do its work without at least these three committees: (1) Prayer Meeting. (2) Lookout. (3) Missionary.

Besides these three many societies can find use for the following extra committees: (4) Social. (5) Information and Press. (6) Sunday School.

Let us consider some of the duties of these several committees.

1. *The Lookout Committee.* This is an important, if not the most important committee of the society. Its duty is twofold: first, to bring new members into the society, and second, to keep a close watch upon the old members to see that they do not neglect their duties. There are, in every society, members that are inclined to be neglectful of their duties as members and it is necessary for some person or persons to remind them of their neglect of duty and to impress upon them the necessity for a more earnest consecration to their duty.

2. *The Prayer Meeting Committee.* It is the duty of this committee to arrange for each Sunday evening prayer meeting. It should appoint the leaders, at least one week in advance, and aid him in his work of leading the service. It should also select such music as will be most fitting to the topic for the evening. In short, this committee should prepare the program for each service. It must needs be careful not to allow the order of service to become monotonous. Avoid "ruts." It is much easier to keep out of them than to get out when you once get in. Besides it causes much jostling about and discomfort when you are in the act of getting out. Better steer clear of them altogether. Every society ought to own, for the benefit of the committee, and itself as well, "Prayer Meeting Methods," by Amos R. Wells.

3. *The Missionary Committee.* In a previous letter, I wrote you concerning the formation and duties of this committee, but shall have something more to say in a subsequent letter.

4. *The Social Committee.* The work that

can be done by this committee will be of much importance to the society. Persons can be reached in this way that can be reached in no other. Some one has very happily said, that some men can be reached from their intellectual side, some from their physical side, and some from their *social side*. If we are to know each other in heaven, we ought to get better acquainted on earth. There is a social side to Christianity as well as to man. The work of this committee is not therefore anti-scriptural. In cities and towns this committee can do much in saving young men from the saloon, the gambling den, and other places of iniquity.

5. *Information and Press Committee.* The duty of this committee is to disseminate Christian Endeavor news—to supply the local press with news and announcements, both of regular church and young peoples' services and such other news that may be helpful to the work at large.

6. *The Sunday School Committee.* Among the duties of this committee we may note the following: (1) Securing new scholars. (2) Visiting sick or otherwise absent scholars under supervision of superintendent. (3) Organizing Sunday Schools in outlying districts. (4) Conducting Bible studies in jails, poor-houses, etc.

There may be other committees needed as the work grows and broadens, such as: (1) Temperance committees. (2) Good literature committee. (3) Christian citizenship committee. Of the work of these last named committees I shall write later.

Committee Cards

In order to do the most effective work in each of the committees, committee cards are needed. We hope very soon to have ready such cards. To have them we must have the support of every society. I doubt not that you can get better literature elsewhere; but if we are ever to have our own literature we must begin now; and it is your duty to support such an undertaking by not going elsewhere for what you need because it is either better or cheaper. Let us have the united support of our societies and I am quite sure that we can make as good and as cheap literature as can be gotten from any other source.

Good Reading in Every Society

Would not the spiritual life and the effectiveness of every society be increased by having within the society, for general distribution, a number of good books? Would not each member of the society become, in time better prepared to discharge any duty that might be placed upon him or her by the society. Members would not then be at a loss for something to say in the prayer meeting. Meetings would not then drag, waiting for the spirit to move some one to speak. We must put something in the mind before we can get something out. Next to the reading of the Bible our spiritual nature is most developed by reading the devotional literature prepared by such spiritual giants as Moody, Spurgeon, Muller, McNeil, Meyer,